Airline	Profit/Loss (Rs. in Million)		
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Air India	-3995.9	-12270.3	-22261.6*
Indian Airlines	495.0	-2402.9	
Kingfisher	-2337.7	-5773.1	-4089.1
Jet Airways	5387.6	279.4	-2530.6
Go Air	-584.0	-2374.7	-1747.6
Spice Jet	-485.3	-721.5	-1323.8

(*Combined profit/loss statement of Air India and Indian Airlines after merger as NACIL).

(c) The spiralling cost of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) coupled with economic slow down have contributed greatly to losses.

The Govt. has undertaken measures such as:

(1) Custom duty on import of ATF has been abolished.

(2) The State Governments have been persuaded to reduce the sales tax on ATF. Government of Andhra Pradesh and in certain cases Government of Rajasthan have reduced the sales tax on ATF to 4%. Government of Maharashtra has also reduced sales tax on ATF from 25% to 4% for flights originating from airports other than Pune and Mumbai.

(3) The Oil Companies have also staggered the dues of Airline Companies over six months.

(4) With the fall in global crude prices, the Oil Companies have been reducing ATF prices since September, 2008.

(5) The infrastructure at the airports and Air Traffic Control and Navigation is being constantly upgraded to meet the future demand of the airlines.

Outsourcing of ground-handling functions

138. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to outsource many functions of ground-handling at various domestic and international airports in India;

(b) if so, which services are being privatized;

(c) which are the companies being considered for the job; and

(d) whether Government has considered the national security angle in outsourcing the services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) As per the new ground handling policy put in place by the Government, the following entities are eligible to carry out ground handling services at metropolitan airports, that is the airports located at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bangalore and Hyderabad:- 1. (i) Airports Authority of India/ the airport operator itself or its Joint Venture Company; (ii) Subsidiary companies of the national carrier, that is, National Aviation Company of India Limited or its joint ventures specialized in ground

handling services on the basis of revenue sharing with airport operator subject to satisfactory observance of performance standards. (iii) Any other ground handling service provider selected through competitive bidding on revenue sharing basis, subject to security clearance by the Central Government and observance of performance standards. 2. At all other airports, in addition to the entities specified above self handling may be permitted to the airlines, excluding foreign airlines.

(d) All entities engaged in ground handling would need to have security clearance by the Central Government and would be subject to instructions/restrictions of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).

Measures to check bird menace

139. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has recently decided to revive the National Committee of prevention of bird menace in view of increase in number of bird hit incidents at various airports;

(b) if so, whether DGCA has recently issued directions to all airport operators to immediately take some steps to ensure that environs around airports are clear and cease to attract birds; and

(c) if so, the details of the other concrete steps Government proposes to take to ensure that planes are not affected by bird hits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A National Bird Control Committee (NBCC) under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Civil Aviation is planned to adopt measure to prevent bird hazard at aerodrome and their vicinity and monitor the implementation of a bird control programme by the aerodrome operator to evaluate its effectiveness and suggest measures for improvement.

(c) Airfield Environment Management Committees have been constituted at those airports where scheduled flights operate to identify the sources of bird attraction and take remedial steps for prevention of such incidents. Various specific steps such as proper disposal of garbage, prevention of water logging, coverage of garbage bins, establishment of modern abattoirs, scaring of birds etc. have also been taken to reduce the incidence of bird hits.

Helicopter services in Uttarakhand

†140. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts are being made by his Ministry to connect the remote and inaccessible areas in Uttarakhand with helicopter services to the capital of the State and other parts of the country;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi